data to BICP for assessment in support of their proposal;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal under consideration and justification in support thereof;

(c) whether increase in the cost is mainly because of old washeries and the need for setting up new washeries; and

(d) what is the total number of washeries in operation in Coal India Limited, how many are old requiring modernisation alongwith total requirement of funds for modernisation and setting up of new washery projects with the phasing of the programme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) Prices for different grades of coal are fixed by the Central Government from time to time on the basis of norms devised by Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP). These norms may also need to be revised after some time. Recently BICP have undertaken a fresh study on coal prices and coal companies have submitted cost data and other information asked for by the Bureau for the study.

(c) In computing the cost of production of washed coal maintenance cost of old washeries has to be taken into account. Since nationalisation Coal India Limited (CIL) have constructed the following new washeries :

Sudamdih Moonidih, Barora and Mahuda Washeries in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, (BCCL), Rajrappa Washery in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL).

Besides, the following washeries are under construction :

1. Madhuban Washery in BCCL.
2. Kedla Washery in CCL.

(d) The total number of washeries in operation is 15. Out of these, 11 washeries need modernisation and funds requirement for modernisation is Rs. 150 crores (approx). Completion schedule for new coking coal washeries under construction and the total requirement of funds for construction of these washeries are as follows :

Name of Washery	Approximate Fund requirement (Rs. Crores)	Date of completion
1. Madhuban . . .	60	March 94
2. Kedla	20	Revised cost estimate is yet to be approved

In addition, three more non-coking coal washeries, namely Bina, Piparwar and Kalinga are being set up.

Illegal Mining operation by Eastern Coalfields Limited

981. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI :

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Eastern Coalfields Limited are carrying out mining operations without taking permission of the D.G. Mines Safety and the concerned District Magistrate; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) and (b) No mining operation is carried out by Eastern Coalfields Limited without the permission of Directorate General of Mines Safety. Permission of District Magistrate is not required. Only an intimation is required to be sent to the District Magistrate about mining operations being carried out and this is duly being done.

Danger faced by Raniganj township

982. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Raniganj township is in danger due to unscientific mining operations;